TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 24th July, 1922.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at Eleven Thirty-five of the Clock with the President in the Chair.

PRESIDENT: I understand that there has been some misconception about my ruling on Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai's motion for postponement of the debate *in re* the Kallar Hydro-Electric Scheme. I think it necessary to remove the misconception.

Standing Order No. 26 contemplates three classes of dilatory motions. These are (1) for adjournment of the House; (2) for postponement of the debate; and (3) for passing on to the business next in order. What the effect of acceptance of the motion by the House will be is definitely stated with reference to the last of these motions only. The result in the case of the last class of motions is that the business then under discussion shall be considered to be disposed of; that is, in such a case, the business cannot be brought again before the House for one year. (*Vide* Rule 35 of the Legislative Council Rules.)

What the effect of accepting the motions for adjournment of the House or for postponement of the debate will be, has not been specifically stated in the Rules or in the Standing Orders. The question has to be decided in accordance with the practice elsewhere. The Parliamentary practice seems to be that in the former case the business before the House will be superseded by the motion and such business will lapse. It is, of course, open to the member concerned to revive such motion by a fresh notice and, if so, it may, subject to the Rules and Standing Orders, be considered again, if it is balloted for any day allotted to non-official business. In the case of motions for postponement of the debate carried by the House, the debate may be continued on any other day allotted to non-official business, compatible with the public interests. It is not likely that any day will be allotted for non-official business in this Session, and under Standing Order No. 4 (2), all pending business, other than legislative, will lapse at the end of the Session.

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[Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai.]

Thus then, by an adjournment of the House, the motion under discussion lapses, though it may be revived by a fresh notice in accordance with the Standing Orders. Though by the postponement of the debate a motion under discussion may not always lapse, it will, so far as the present Session is concerned, lapse.

We have now to begin the general discussion of the budget.

The other day I suggested a time-limit of 15 minutes at the general discussion stage to enable as large a number of members as possible including the official members to speak within the two days allotted to such discussion. Members will see that under Rule 48 the maximum limit of time allowable to them is 20 minutes; and if any individual member insists on speaking for this length of time, I must allow it to him. As a matter of general convenience, however, it would be well for each member to impose on himself the self-denying ordinance I have suggested, and I leave the adoption of this suggestion to the pleasure of the members.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: Sir, to-day—

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, before passing on to the business of the day, I have to submit one or two points for your kind orders. They relate to—

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: Sir, I must rise to a point of order. He cannot address the House now.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Krishna Aiyangar is already in possession of the House.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Any member can at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the President, but in doing so he should confine himself to stating the point.

PRESIDENT: But you are not in possession of the House.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: Is it on the subject of the budget, Sir, that he wants to submit a point of order?

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, I submit that I can stand up *at any time* for submitting a point of order.

PRESIDENT: But not so as to interrupt a member; nor can you submit a point not relevant to his speech.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: I invite your kind attention to page 20 of the Manual, Standing Order No. 26, in which it will be found stated that "a motion that any meeting or business be adjourned or postponed or that the Council pass to the business next in order" etc., "may be moved at any time and without previous notice.....but not

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